

In 1941, he organized the Florida State Conference of the NAACP and worked as an executive secretary without compensation. His platform also broadened as he began to add his voice to issues such as Black voting disenfranchisement, segregated education, and later in 1943, lynchings and police brutality. He began to organize protests, and write and circulate letters voicing his concerns about the issues.

He also organized the Progressive Voter's League and with his persistence and diligence, in 1948, helped over 116,000 Black voters register, which represented 31 percent of the African-American voting population in the Florida Democratic Party. In 1946, due to his role in the League, Mr. Moore and his wife were terminated from their jobs. Mr. Moore then took on a full-time paid position as an organizer for the NAACP. However, in 1949, over Mr. Moore's objection, the national NAACP office raised the dues from \$1 to \$2, causing a substantial amount of members to revoke their membership. This marked only the beginning of a strained relationship between Mr. Moore and the national NAACP office.

During that same year, the landmark Groveland rape case occurred, in which four African-American men were falsely accused of raping a White woman. Although the men were brutally beaten and no evidence suggested that the woman was raped, one of the men was killed, one was given a life sentence, and the other two were sentenced to death. With Mr. Moore's assistance in conjunction with the legal counsel of the NAACP, the case went to the U.S. Supreme Court and the conviction for the two sentenced to death was overturned. However, Sheriff Willis McCall, a known White supremacist, shot the two men to death as he was driving them to their pre-trial hearing. Recognizing this tragic injustice, Mr. Moore vigorously advocated for the indictment of Sheriff McCall.

Sadly, Mr. Moore never lived to see the outcome of his work in this case. On the eve of his 25th wedding anniversary and Christmas Day 1951, Mr. Moore and his wife were killed when a bomb placed underneath their bed in the floor detonated. Mr. Moore died in his mother's arms on the way to the hospital while Harriet died only nine days later.

Following the Moores' murder, there was a public outcry in the African-American community. Despite massive amounts of mail sent to President Truman and the Florida Governor in protest and the many protests and memorials organized demanding justice, no arrests were made in relation to the horrendous crime.

In no uncertain terms, Harry T. Moore led without permission, without acknowledgement, and without fear. What made his vision so tangible was the fact that he believed he could achieve what he set before himself. In a speech his daughter gave in 2002, she stated, "Daddy started the movement. He had absolutely nobody but us, and yet he accomplished all of those things—the voting, the teacher salaries all of the lynchings that he investigated. That's a very important part of history."

Mr. Speaker, Harry T. Moore's story is one of such importance as we celebrate Black History Month and reflect on the success of past and present leaders. For these stories are not only told to recall the achievements of African-American trailblazers, but to offer the next Harry T. Moore the hope, promise, direction,

and purpose needed to rise from the ordinary to achieve the extraordinary.

I shall conclude with an excerpt of the heartfelt words written by Langston Hughes in memory of Harry T. Moore:

In his heart is only love
For all the human race,
And all he wants is for every man
To have his rightful place.

And this he says, our Harry Moore,
As from the grave he cries:
No bomb can kill the dreams I hold
For freedom never dies!

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important contributions of mentoring programs such as the One Star Foundation, an initiative established by the State of Texas, and the program HOSTS, Helping One Student to Succeed, in the Laredo Independent School District, which help students who are at risk of failing reading and or math by mentoring them with members of the community, and the Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Texas program. The National Mentoring Month is important, and it serves as a guide to us in our communities to reach out to youth, to show them there is another way, that they should not give into despair, but instead give into the hope of a better future.

Every time you reach out and mentor a child, you provide that child with a positive example of what an adult role model should be. Mentoring can be an invaluable resource for single-parent families, and low-income families, and it helps give the children the ability to succeed in school. There are over 156 mentoring programs in the State of Texas, and over 50 mentoring programs in my district working to give hope to children in urban and rural communities. These are excellent examples of how communities should come together to ensure that children have the best chance to succeed in their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had this opportunity to honor the value of H.R. 660, which supports the goals and ideals of National Mentoring Month.

TSUNAMIS, FLOODS AND EARTHQUAKES, SEEN AND UNSEEN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD "Witness for Justice # 248" entitled Tsunamis, Floods and Earthquakes; Seen and Unseen, published December 26, 2005 by the United Church of Christ of Cleveland, Ohio. The article eloquently written by Rev. Sala W.J. Nolan, Minister for Criminal Justice and Human Rights of this Church on 700 Prospect Ave. in Cleveland re-

minds us of the existence of unseen tsunamis, floods and earthquakes that continue to overrun communities around the world—stifling the voices of those forgotten. Recalling the 2005 Indian Ocean tsunami that killed nearly 300,000, and Hurricane Katrina that took the lives of more than 1,000 Gulf Coast residents, leaving even scores more homeless and displaced, Rev. Nolan speaks of unseen tsunamis, floods and earthquakes that manifest throughout the world in the form of racism and other forms of injustice. "They take place in U.S. prisons, which house one-fourth of all prisoners in the world and young Black men exist at 8 times the population rate of the Black men of South Africa at the height of Apartheid," explains Rev. Nolan. The "invisible flood of incarceration" as described by Rev. Nolan—the imprisonment of our Black and Hispanic youth—is robbing our communities of future entrepreneurs, doctors, lawyers, political and community leaders and tearing them away from their families—leaving them to languish and surrender their dreams within a less-than-colorblind criminal justice system with a swift, revolving door.

I also join Rev. Nolan in her concern over the erosion of freedoms not protected in a political environment where the Republican-controlled White House and Congress have mistakenly justified the infringement of personal freedoms for the sake of a safer America. Rev. Nolan says that since the PATRIOT Act has passed, "our government has acquired vastly broadened authority to monitor, arrest and detain citizens. We have learned that freedoms not protected will erode." Since the 2001 terrorist attacks, the Bush administration has jailed and deported immigrants who have been living in our country for many years, obeying our laws, contributing to our society and working hard to support their families. It has created an atmosphere of fear and suspicion of anybody who seems to be a foreigner. We must force this secret tsunami to retreat off our lands and we must restore freedoms to those left most victimized by the misplaced political zeal for power—the poor, the enslaved, and the tortured.

I join Rev. Nolan in all her concerns and her wish for a more just America free of unseen tsunamis, floods and earthquakes. Witness for Justice #248, Dec. 26, 2005.

TSUNAMIS, FLOODS AND EARTHQUAKES: SEEN AND UNSEEN

(By Sala W.J. Nolan)

As 2005 draws to a close, we have much suffering to address. The tsunami of last December 26 still reverberates throughout the world. The worst hurricane season in U.S. history has damaged the Gulf Coast in ways that will extend to generations. And an earthquake has devastated Kashmir, where relief is terribly complicated by Indian and Pakistani political claims.

The events were life shattering and will leave enduring legacies. They are especially notable because of the human suffering that was unmasked. We saw aging and African-American citizens in the wake of Katrina, without food and water or medical care, left abandoned on bridges and in nursing homes and sports arenas. The visible poverty among so many citizens of the richest country in the world—and their utter abandonment by the institutions obligated to serve them—shocked the planet.

Every day there are unseen tsunamis, floods and earthquakes. They take place in U.S. prisons, which house one-fourth of all